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MS Patent Application
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

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Express Mail No. ER 155079572 US

Att'y Docket No.: 2003 - Marley.Kenneth
First Named Inventor: Kenneth Ray Marley
Total Pages in Trans.: 27 (excluding copies of patents)

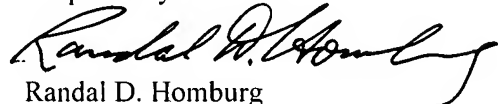


Enclosed herewith is a complete application for a utility patent including the following parts:

1. \$385.00 check for filing fee, Small Entity* (No. 27028);
2. Patent Cover Sheet;
3. Specification;
 - a. Title of the Invention
 - b. Cross-References to Related Applications,
 - c. Background of the Invention,
 - (1) Field of the Invention,
 - (2) Description of Prior Art,
 - d. Brief Summary of the Invention,
 - e. Brief Description of the Drawings,
 - f. Description of the Preferred Embodiments,
 - g. Claims,
 - h. Abstract,
4. Formal Drawings (9 sheets);
5. Combined Declaration and Power of Attorney;
6. Information Disclosure Statement;
7. Nonpublication Request.

Please contact me if you have any questions regarding this matter.

Respectfully submitted:


Randal D. Homburg

* It is hereby stated that the inventor named herein qualifies as an independent inventor as defined in 37 CFR 1.9(c)-(e) for the purposes of paying reduced fees to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office described in the specification filed herewith with the title listed as indicated on the cover sheet attached hereto.

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number.

**NONPUBLICATION REQUEST
UNDER
35 U.S.C. 122(b)(2)(B)(i)**

First Named Inventor *Kenneth Ray MARLEY*

Title *Ball Hitch Locking Device*

Atty Docket Number *2003 - MARLEY, Kenneth*

I hereby certify that the invention disclosed in the attached application **has not and will not be** the subject of an application filed in another country, or under a multilateral agreement, that requires publication at eighteen months after filing.

I hereby request that the attached application not be published under 35 U.S.C. 122(b).

12/18/03

Date

Randal D. Homburg

Signature

Randal D. Homburg

Typed or printed name

This request must be signed in compliance with 37 CFR 1.33(b) and submitted with the application **upon filing**.

Applicant may rescind this nonpublication request at any time. If applicant rescinds a request that an application not be published under 35 U.S.C. 122(b), the application will be scheduled for publication at eighteen months from the earliest claimed filing date for which a benefit is claimed.

If applicant subsequently files an application directed to the invention disclosed in the attached application in another country, or under a multilateral international agreement, that requires publication of applications eighteen months after filing, the applicant **must** notify the United States Patent and Trademark Office of such filing within forty-five (45) days after the date of the filing of such foreign or international application. **Failure to do so will result in abandonment of this application (35 U.S.C. 122(b)(2)(B)(iii)).**